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 SECURITY INFORMATION
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Soviet-Occupied Europe and USSR
 SUBJECT The Order of Battle of the Soviet Ground Forces in Europe and the U.S.S.R. and the German Volkspolizei
 PLACE ACQUIRED
 DATE OF INFO.

DATE DISTR. 10 March 1953
 NO. OF PAGES 10
 NO. OF ENCL. 25X1
 SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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The general OB of Soviet Army units in East Germany remained virtually unchanged until the end of January 1953. Training activity, which was conducted exclusively inside the quartering areas from November 1952 until early January 1953 has been shifted to the immediate vicinity of the posts and/or turned to short-term firing practices on most of the troop training grounds. These observations coincide with those made during the same periods in 1952.

GERMANY

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Order of Battle.

1.

a. GHQ Units of the Group of Occupation Forces Germany (GOFG).

Hq 6th Arty Div

RATHENOW 22 January

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Hq 34th Arty Div

POTSDAM 22 January

30th Gds Gun Arty Brig

POTSDAM 25 November

4th AT Arty Brig

PRORA 8 January

25X1

6th Gds AAA Div

CHEMNITZ area October

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b. Eighth Guards Army.

An AAA Regt of the 13th AAA Div

LEIPZIG October

220th Hv-Tank SP Regt

GLAUCHAU November

38th Army AT Arty Brig

ALtenburg 16 January

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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19th Indep Cds Eng Bn	WEINAR	10 January	
Hq of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps	RUDOLSTADT	13 December	
308th Arty Brig []	GERA	16 January	25X1
316th RL Regt []	SAALFELD	October	25X1
497th AAA Regt []	RUDOLSTADT	13 December	
Hq 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Di	OHRDRUF	November	
112th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	PLAUE	November	
117th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	MEININGEN	November	
87th Gun Arty Regt	PLAUE	November	
935th AAA Bn []	OHRDRUF	October	25X1
13th Mtrcl Bn	OHRDRUF (?)	8 January	
Hq 20th Gds Mecz Div	JENA	November	
36th (?) Tank Regt []	ZEITZ	14 January	25X1
68th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt []	JENA	16 January	25X1
65th Tank Tng Bn []	JENA	October	25X1
76th Arty Brig []	MEPSEBURG	November	25X1
Hq 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Di	NAUMBURG	November	
170th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	NAUMBURG	3 September	
174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	WEISSENFELS	1 September	
Hq 21st Gds Mecz Div	HALIE	13 January	
68th Gds Mecz Regt	HALIE	16 January	
69th Gds Mecz Regt	HALIE	8 January	
54th Gds How Arty Regt	HALIE	October	
c. <u>Third Shock Army</u>			
44th Army Arty Brig	ALTENGRABOW	9 December	
Hq 18th Mecz Div	PERLEBERG	September	
2511th AAA Regt []	PARCHIM or PERLEBERG	29 December	25X1

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d. First Guards Mechanized Army.

Hq 8th Gds Mecz Div	GRIMM	November	25X1
64th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt	LEISNIG	16 January	
A Gds RL Pn of the 8th Gds Mecz Div	LEISNIG	14 January	
A Sig Pn of the 8th Gds Mecz Div	GRIMM	4 January	
Hq 9th Tank Div	RIESA	31 October	
23d Tank Regt	OSCHATZ	26 September	
218th Mort Regt	RIESA(?)	January	
A Sig Bn of the 9th Tank Div	RIESA	6 October	
A Tank Tng Bn of the 9th Tank Div	ZEITWAIN or RIESA	5 September	
Hq 11th Gds Tank Div	KLOTZSCHE	November	
45th Gds Tank Regt	undeter- mined	22 September	

e. Second Guards Mechanized A

31st AAA Div	SCHOENWALDE	8 January	
90th RL Regt	SCHOENWALDE	8 January	25X1
33d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	FUERSTENBERG	January (Castaven Lake)	
48th Gds Tank Regt	NEURUPPIN	29 November	
66th Gds Tank Regt	NEURUPPIN	1 December	
87th (?) Rcn Bn	NEURUPPIN	5 December	
Hq 1st Mecz Div	DOEBERITZ	24 December	
37th Mecz Regt	DOEBERITZ	10 January	
219th Tank Regt	DOEBERITZ	10 January	
18th (?) Engr Pn	DOEBERITZ	10 January	

f. Third Guards Mechanized Ar

91st Gds RL Regt	LUCKENWALDE	17 January	
35th Engr Regt	SPERENPERG	26 September	25X1

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Hq 6th Gds Tank Div	WITTENBERG	November
Hq 7th Gds Tank Div	RONSLAU	November
Hq 9th Mecz Div	COTTEUS	17 November
80th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt	SPREMBERG	November
g. <u>Fourth Guards Mechanized A</u>		
52d Gds RL Bn	BERNAU	10 January
Hq 7th Gds Mecz Div	FUERSTENWALDE	13 December
24th Gds Mecz Regt	FUERSTENWALDE	18 October
A Motor Trans Bn of the 25th Tank Div	ORANIENFURG	10 January
Hq 30th Gds Tank Div	KRAMPNITZ	10 January
131st Gds Engr Bn	KRAMPNITZ	December 1

Change of Quarters

2. The following changes in the garrisoning of units in East Germany were determined:

a. The 33d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 9th Gds Tank Div, which was previously assumed to have been transferred from FASFWALK to a new barracks installation in the LYCHEN area in July 1952, has now been confirmed [] being stationed near Castaven Lake, northeast of FUERSTENBERG.

b. Concurring information that numerous 120-mm mortars have been observed in the Mudra Kaserne in RIESA for several months allows the conclusion that the 218th Mort Regt of the 9th Tank Div was transferred from EISSEN to RIESA in the fall of 1952. It is possible that quarters in EISSEN were thus made available for the 45th Gds Tank Regt of the 11th Gds Tank Div whose new post has not yet been definitely determined.

c. The 80th Engr Bn of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps returned to its old BUDOLSTADT post. The battalion had been transferred from the OHDRDRUF troop training grounds to the TEMPLIN area at the beginning of June 1952. The battalion had probably been engaged in enlarging the installations at the TEMPLIN troop training grounds.

25X1
25X1Training

3. The basic infantry training of Soviet Army units in the quarters of the garrisons was generally completed at the end of 1952. Almost all reports available definitely indicated that, except for the daily routine, training at platoon and company level was increasingly conducted on the terrain after the beginning of January 1953.

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Garrison training grounds and other suitable places in the immediate vicinity of the quarters were primarily used. Furthermore, short-term firing practices with live ammunition, lasting 2 to 3 days, were simultaneously conducted at the troop training grounds by small infantry, artillery and tank units, most of whom arrived by rail. To date, the following troop training grounds have been used for firing practice:

OHRDRUF: elements of the 20th Gds Mecz Div, the 38th Army AT Arty Brig and the 308th Arty Brig [redacted]. 25X1

LOSSA: elements of the 21st Gds Mecz Div.

WITTSTOCK: elements of the 18th Mecz Div.

TEMPLIN: elements of the 6th Gds Mecz Div and/or the 25th Tank Div.

LIEPEROSE: elements of the 7th Gds Mecz Div.

WEISSWASSER: elements of the 9th Mecz Div.

KOENIGSBRUECK: elements of the 11th Gds Tank Div and other units of the First Gds Mecz Army.

JUETERFOG: elements of the 14th Gds Mecz Div.

ALTENGRABOW: elements of the 6th Arty Div.

The list indicates that all these troop training grounds were occupied by the same units that had practiced there in 1952. The engineer units, also switched from individual training at the quarters to training in the terrain at the beginning of 1953. Components of the 19th Gds Engr Bn of the Eighth Gds Army moved from WEINAR to the BAD KOESEN water training site on 10 January and engineer elements of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army constructed a pontoon bridge across the Oder-Spree Canal east of MUELLROSE on about 20 January. In general, the time for the training coincides with that observed in the winter of 1951/1952, except for the firing practice with live ammunition at ALTENGRABOW which did not start until late February 1952.

Personnel.

4. A troop train from the U.S.S.R. arrived in East Germany at the beginning of January 1953. Its destination could not be determined. The shipment may have consisted of soldiers who, having attended special training courses in the U.S.S.R., were rejoining their individual units. Effective 15 January 1953, only one instead of two pairs of leave trains runs daily from FRANKFURT/Oder to BREST LITOVSK and vice versa. A similar schedule was established in January 1951.

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Transportation.

6. In January 1953, the traffic situation was still critical. While the large backlog of undispatched cars was almost eliminated by 20 January, the shortage of rolling stock remained. In early January, the number of operational railroad cars dropped below the 100,000 mark. The increasing number of slow-down sections on railroad lines indicate that ties and rails are overage. In spite of administrative efforts, it has not been possible to eliminate all operational difficulties.
7. On 20 January, total coal stocks available represented only 6.1 days' requirements. The coal reserve was 40 percent below the normal level of winter coal stocks.
8. Due to seasonal fluctuation, traffic through stations on the Oder/Neisse line and the Czechoslovakian border decreased. Special transportation operations included:
 - a. Grain imports from the U.S.S.R. and sugar and uranium ore exports to the U.S.S.R.
 - b. Individual shipments of arms and motor vehicles from the U.S.S.R. to the Soviet occupation forces.
The return of former German freight cars from the U.S.S.R. to West Germany was probably completed in late 1952.
9. Work on the previously known railroad construction projects was delayed by a shortage of construction materials. The status of major construction projects is given below:
 - a. The construction of the second track on the DRESDEN - BAD SCHANDAU - SCHOENA railroad line was completed on 21 December 1952.
 - b. The second track of the FALKENBERG - FINSTERWALDE - GOLM/TZ line was completed.
 - c. The second track of the FALKENBERG - RUHLAND - PLATZGATORST line was completed.
 - d. Work on the establishment of new railroad check points around WEST BERLIN was suspended.
 - e. The TIEPLITZ-FRENZIAU railroad line is to be opened on 15 March 1953.
 - f. The reconstructed road bridge over the Lausitzer Neisse River in GOERLITZ, referred to as Reichsbruecke Bridge, was opened on 26 December 1952.

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10.

[redacted] the number of heavy-duty flatcars available in January had increased by 174 cars of 80 to 90-tons as compared with number available in October 1952. This increase was mainly due to the production of RRym-type cars.

25X1
25X1Supply.

11. In December 1952, and as far as could also be observed in January 1953, supply traffic from the U.S.S.R. was about 40 percent below the normal rate of 1,000 carloads per month. In December, 250 carloads of ammunition were shipped to Germany. This quantity is considered low. It is noteworthy that ammunition was delivered for the first time to the MOCKREHNA ammunition depot. Previously, only captured German ammunition had been stored there. It appears that this installation will be taken over by the Russians. This assumption is supported by the fact that approximately 8,000 tons of German ammunition were shipped from MOCKREHNA to TORGAU/SUEPTITZ in October and November 1952. In December, it was observed that 72 model M-13 rocket launchers were exchanged for 80 rocket launchers of type M-31. A total of 120 carloads of tank spare parts arrived in December 1952. This rate of shipments was rather high. In January 1953, 26 tanks reportedly arrived in East Germany. As 11 of them were dispatched to tank repair shops, it is believed that the tanks involved had undergone complete overhauling in the U.S.S.R. The remaining 15 tanks were sent to FRANKFURT/Oder from where they were probably forwarded to Soviet troop units. As compared with traffic observed during the summer of 1952, interzonal supply traffic also dropped during the reported period. The only noteworthy shipments were assault boats dispatched from the Ernst Thaelmann Shipyard in BRANDENBURG to the GOFG engineer equipment park in FUERSTENWALDE - KETSCHENDORF.

German Volkspolizei.12. Order of Battle.

The OB of KVP units has not changed since December 1952. The majority of the units were confirmed in their quarters and posts.

13. Training.

Some of the units started their winter training at the end of November 1952. Regular basic infantry training for all units did not start until early January 1953. New instruction courses at the officer schools also began at that time. Regular recruit training and the speedy training of NCOs were emphasized. NCO schools were established in all regiments of the Armeegruppe Nord and the cadre units. NCO and basic training are scheduled to be completed at the end of March or the beginning of April 1953.

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AUSTRIA/HUNGARYOrder of Battle.

14.

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44th Gds Mecz Regt	VIENNA	13 October	25X1
127th Tank Bn of the 44th Gds Mecz Regt	VIENNA	19 September	
45th Gds Mecz Regt	TRAISKIRCHEN	1 September	
46th Gds Mecz Regt	KLOSTERNEUPURG	10 October	
129th Tank Bn of the 46th Gds Mecz Regt	KLOSTERNEUPURG	18 September	
106th Gds Hv Tank SI Regt	VIENNA-KAGRAN	16 October	
8th Gds Engr Bn	KLOSTERNEUPURG	29 October	
284th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	EISENSTADT	16 October	
150th Gds Tank SP Regt	ST.POELTEN	July	
233d Gds Gun Arty Regt	MELK	23 October	
A Sig Regt of the Central Group	ST.POELTEN	12 October	
Hq 23d AAA Div	KORNEUPURG	25 October	
1064th AAA Regt	KORNEUPURG	6 October	
1336th AAA Regt	KORNEUPURG	26 November	
1348th AAA Regt	STOCKERAU	14 October	
27th Gds Tank Regt of the 17th Gds Mecz Div	believed sta- tioned in SZONPATHELY/ Hungary	17 July	

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Training.

16. The training of recruits in January 1953 was held primarily in the barracks yard and drill grounds near the barracks installations, except for instruction courses at the quarters. Basic infantry training, firing practice, and the uses of special weapons and

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equipment of the individual branches of service, such as artillery, mortar, AAA, and telephone line construction equipment were taught.

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U.S.S.R.

17. The following [redacted] identified an additional number of units in the U.S.S.R. for the first time since World War II:

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a. [redacted] ODESSA. [redacted]

25X1

[redacted] In the winter of 1946/1947, the division was still stationed in Bulgaria, and was subordinate to the Thirty-Seventh Army. It is plausible that the division is now stationed in the ODESSA area. See paragraph 17 d.

25X1

b. [redacted] RYAZANI, MOSCOW Oblast, on 19 October.

25X1

[redacted] The division was subordinate to the Ninth Gds Army and was last reported in the area of ST. POELTEN in April 1945. [redacted] the division should be stationed in the MOSCOW Oblast [redacted] it is possible that the unit is stationed there.

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c. [redacted] ISYASHEV, KAMENETS PODOLSK Oblast. [redacted]

25X1

575th Rifle Regt, [redacted] of the division was identified in ROVNO in March 1951. Thus, there is no doubt that the 161st Rifle Div is still stationed in the KAMENETS-PODOLSK Oblast, Carpathian MD. In World War II, the division was a component of the First Gds Army which is still located in the Carpathian MD.

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d. [redacted] PERVOMAISK, ODESSA Oblast, on 10 October 1952.

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[redacted] It is [redacted] safe to carry the division in the ODESSA MD. It is of interest to know that, like the 28th Gds Rifle Div, the 188th Rifle Div belonged to the Thirty-Seventh Army in World War II and after the war until 1946. See also paragraph 17a. Therefore, it is possible that the Thirty-Seventh Army which [redacted] was said to have been reorganized into the Tenth Mecz Army after the war, is stationed in the ODESSA MD. If this were correct, it would be possible that one of the two rifle divisions had also been reorganized into a mechanized division.

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e. [redacted] OSIPOVICH, Byelorussian MD, on 7 October 1952.

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[redacted] The division was last observed in the BRUENN area, Czechoslovakia, in April 1945. The headquarters of the IV Gds Cav Corps and the 9th and 10th Gds Cav Divs subordinate to it in World War II were determined in the North Caucasus MD in April 1946 [redacted]

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the division can safely be carried in this area. In World War II, the division was subordinate to the V Gds Cav Corps. The alleged appearance of another cavalry division in the White-Russian MD must be confirmed; however, the existence there of two such divisions is conceivable.

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